



WELLESLEY NATURAL
RESOURCES COMMISSION

Insights from Outside

May 2019

The numbers are in: City Nature Challenge 2019 was a Huge Success!



Two weekends ago Wellesley residents joined 159 cities across the globe for **City Nature Challenge 2019**. A staggering 32,690 participants on six continents made 911,465 nature observations, identifying 31,730 species. Wellesley participants visited Centennial Reservation, the North 40, Longfellow Pond and the Town Forest, Boulder Brook Reservation, Guernsey Sanctuary, their own backyards, and other areas around town to document Wellesley's natural biodiversity.

Wellesley had 43 observers participate who made 1309 observations of 336 Species. The most popular area in town for participation was the North 40 with over 400 observations of 134 species made by 21 observers. Check out all of [Wellesley's impressive stats here](#), which contributed

"It's (Still) Vital Not to Idle"



Over 30 Wellesley boards, departments, and community groups are participating in the **"It's Vital Not to Idle"** campaign, inspired by Girl Scout Troop 73505. The Scouts have been out visiting school car-lines and the RDF to spread the message about the harmful **effects of idling**. Please [read this letter](#) from the NRC and Board of Health about the health risks of idling, especially for children. Help spread the word: [contact the NRC](#) if your organization would like to use promotional materials such as sandwich boards, signs and flyers.



to the Boston areas outstanding global statistics placing 14th with 20,340 observations, 26th with 1568 species identified and 9th with 1,109 observers.

If you missed this year's chance at participating in this global citizen science project be sure to join us next April for CNC 2020. Many thanks to the volunteers who worked to make this happen!

And Speaking of the North 40...



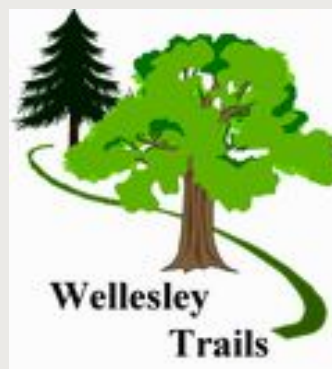
Vernal Pool Boardwalk construction is almost complete! Don't miss your opportunity to contribute to this amazing volunteer project. **Contact the NRC** for dates and times. (Shown here in use during the City Nature Challenge!)

Talking Conservation



Did you know, the top two conservation steps for mitigating climate change are reforestation, and avoiding converting forests to development? The **Wellesley Conservation Council** and the NRC would like to thank Spencer Meyer of the **Highstead Foundation** and **Harvard Forest** for leading a discussion making the case for conservation's "Return on Investment" in the areas of health care,

Take A Hike!



Join the **Wellesley Trails Committee** on one of their legendary **guided hikes** or volunteer to maintain a trail. Dates include:

- **May 18 Saturday, 9:00-10:15 AM**
Lower Falls
 - **June 1 Saturday, 9:00-10:00 AM**
Beard Trail
 - **June 8 Saturday, 9:00 AM.** Join the Trails Committee and Wellesley Conservation Council for a maintenance project in the **WCC's Susan Lee & Heyl Sanctuaries**.
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Be Part of Wellesley's Spring Cleaning!



A huge thanks to Vaani Kapoor, for organizing a plastic pick-up day along Route 9 with her friends, pictured above, and to volunteers from NaviHealth at the Charles River Clean Up, below. The groups did an incredible job. If you would like to lead or join a similar effort, **contact us** and we can help!

High School Students: Contact the **Key Club** for volunteer opportunities.

clean water and air, property values, and job creation. This informative presentation was backed up with loads of data. If you missed the presentation, [watch it here!](#)

Softball Fields of Dreams



Big improvements to the Lee and Hunnewell softball fields are on the way! This million dollar project will be funded by the Community Preservation Act and the Town's capital budget, as well as \$250,000 to be raised in private donations.

If you are interested in contributing time or a tax-deductible donation to help the girls' softball team and others play ball for years to come, please contact Jill Creevy at jillcreevy@comcast.net

Wellesley Green Collaborative Meeting



The [Wellesley Green Collaborative](#) is excited to host David Farnsworth of the Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) for a discussion on Electricity as a Pathway to Emissions Reduction:

- Thursday, May 9
- Wakelin Room, Wellesley Free Library
- 9 to 11 am

Don't miss this interesting talk and

Business Owners: Help clean up Route 9 and get credit for your efforts by "Adopting a Highway." Learn more about the State's program [here](#), and [contact the NRC](#) to partner with us.



Wellesley Wonderful Weekend May 18th and 19th



Join your neighbors and friends Saturday and Sunday May 18 and 19 and celebrate Wellesley:

- Come draw and make Simons Park BLOOM with the [Wellesley Women Artisans](#)
- Enjoy fireworks at Hunnewell Field
- [Run](#) in the Wonder Run 5K and Kids' Fun Run at the Hunnewell Track

The NRC is pleased to host these and other events on our parklands.

This year's [51st Annual Veteran's Parade](#) will honor the 75th anniversary of D-Day:

- [March with the NRC](#) and other green organizations in town!

Visit [Wellesley Wonderful Weekend](#) for a complete schedule of events. There's something for everyone.

Thirty-six Years, and Counting...



For the 36th year, Wellesley was once again named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective municipal urban forest management.

Trees provide multiple benefits to the community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, protect water, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits.

Get your free tree now, through the Town's Tree Planting program. [Read more](#) about this year's options, and help preserve and grow our town's important tree canopy by calling the NRC at 781-431-1019, ext. 2294.

Dinner and a Movie



STINK! The Movie the Chemical Industry Doesn't Want You to See

Join [Sustainable Wellesley](#) and the NRC on **Tuesday May 21** for their *Dinner and a*

Love Birds?



Plant Native Plants this Spring

Birds like this Goldfinch depend on insects, and insects depend on native plant species. Baby birds cannot eat hard seeds from bird feeders - they need soft, protein-rich caterpillars to survive, and lots of them. Numerous studies have shown our insect and bird populations to be in precipitous decline. Please consider your yard as habitat and plant native this year. Use the [Native Plant Trust's "Go Botany"](#) tool to identify plants native to New England. [Watch Dr. Doug Tallamy](#) in Wellesley explain it all in this informative and entertaining talk.

Take in a Bird Walk



The [Wellesley Conservation Council](#), Wellesley's non-profit land trust, offers free spring Sunday-morning bird walks beginning the 1st Sunday in May. Click [here](#) for more information.

Morses Pond Family Fishing Clinic

Movie series held at the Wellesley Free Library. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for (free) dining; the movie starts at 6:45 p.m. **Seats are limited, [learn more and register here.](#)**



DPW Replaces Foot Bridge at Centennial Reservation



Thanks to the [Wellesley Trails Committee](#) and the [Wellesley DPW](#) for replacing the damaged footbridge at Centennial Reservation. The aged structure was replaced with a stronger, safer bridge and finishing touches to the project will be completed soon.

Thursday May 16, 5-7 PM Learn the basics of fishing at this family-friendly fishing clinic with the Mass Wildlife Angler Program. Equipment and bait provided, but registration is required. Visit the [Wellesley Recreation Department](#) website, (course #225400), for more information.

MEETING CALENDAR

Upcoming NRC Meetings:

- Thursday May 9th: 7 PM, Juliani Room, Wellesley Town Hall
- Thursday May 23rd: 7 PM, Juliani Room, Wellesley Town Hall
- Thursday June 6th: 7 PM, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Department
- Thursday June 20th: 7 PM, Warren Building Room

Upcoming Wetlands Meetings:

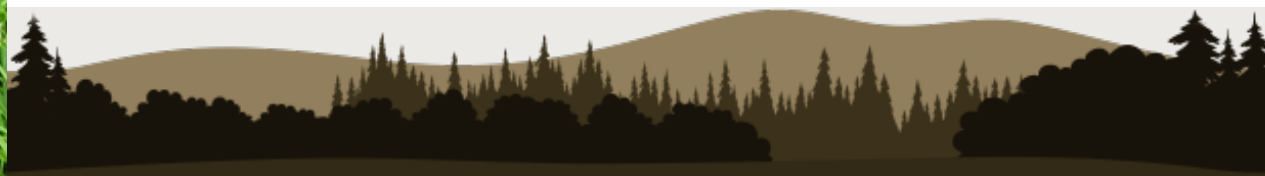
- Thursday May 9th: 6:30 PM, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Department
- Thursday May 30th: 6:30 PM, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Department
- Thursday June 20th: 6:30 PM, Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Department

Upcoming Trails Meetings:

- Tuesday May 21st: 7 PM, NRC Office, Wellesley Town Hall

Wellesley Green Collaborative Meeting:

- Thursday May 9th: 9:15 to 11:00 am (see above)



Connect with us



Town of Wellesley Natural Resources Commission
Phone: 781-431-1019 x 2294
Email: nrc@wellesleyma.gov
Website: www.wellesleyma.gov/nrc